

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00556 210902Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 OMB-01  
HA-05 /091 W

-----069070 210906Z /21

O R 201700Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6978  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 556

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA  
SUBJ: NAMIBIA: CONVERSATION WITH BRAND FOURIE

REF: (A) CAPE TOWN 543, (B) USUN 937

1. I HAVE A PRIVATE CHAT WITH BRAND FOURIE SATURDAY NIGHT  
AFTER DINNER AT THE RESIDENCE IN WHICH HE EXPLAINED THAT  
THERE WAS NO REPT NO POSSIBILITY OF THE SAG ACCEPTING  
THE NAMIBIA PROPOSALS AS NOW DRAFTED. HE SAID ENTIRE  
CABINET WAS AGAINST THE PROVISION CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL  
OF PLATOON-SIZE UNITS FROM THE FORWARD BASES. IN ADDITION,  
DEFENSE MIN P.W. BOTHA AND MILITARY LEADERS REMAINED TO BE  
CONVINCED ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL DATE AND THE CIVILIANIZATION  
OF THE HANDLING OF THE SERVICE FUNCTION. HE CALLED ATTENTION  
TO THE FACT THAT P.W. BOTHA ONLY RECENTLY HAD BEEN BROUGHT  
AROUND TO ACCEPTING THE IDEA OF THE FUTURE OF WALVIS BAY  
BEING DISCUSSED BY THE SAG AND THE NEW NAMIBIAN  
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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00556 210902Z

GOVT AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

2. I ASKED FOURIE WHERE THE CABINET ATTITUDE AS HE DESCRIBED  
IT LEFT US. HE SAID IT HAD BEEN HIS HOPE THAT BY  
BRINGING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE FIVE THE MPLA'S WILLINGNESS  
TO ALLOW SMALL SADF DETACHMENTS IN FORWARD POSITIONS  
AS PART OF A GENERAL WITHDRAWAL FROM THE BORDER (CAPE TOWN

469), THE FIVE MIGHT ACCEPT A SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT. THIS HAS NOT BEEN THE CASE. MITIGATING IN FAVOR OF THE ANTICIPATED SAG ATTITUDE, HE OBSERVED, IS THE BELIEF THAT SWAPO WILL PROBABLY NOT FIND THE PROPOSALS ACCEPTABLE EITHER, SO WE WOULD END UP WITH A SITUATION COMPARABLE TO THE RHODESIAN IMPASSE. I ASKED WHETHER BY THIS HE MEANT THE SAG WAS READY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH AN INTERNAL SOLUTION. HE DID NOT ANSWER THE QUESTION DIRECTLY. INSTEAD HE TALKED ABOUT THE NEED TO SET A "TARTET" DATE FOR ELECTIONS SOON IN ORDER TO AVOID A WHITE ELECTION BEING PRESSED BY DU PLESSIS.

3. I EXPRESSED REGRET THAT AFTER THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE SAG WOULD TAKE AN ADAMANT POSITION ON ISSUES LIKE SADF PLATOONS AT FORWARD BASES AND PUTTING IN CIVILIANS TO HANDLE THE SERVICE FUNCTIONS. I ASKED HIM WHETHER A COMBINATION OF LOCAL POLICE UNITS AND UN PERSONNEL MIGHT NOT TAKE CARE OF SECURITY REQUIREMENTS IN THIS AREA. HE REPLIED THAT ONLY SADF UNITS AT THE FORWARD BASES AND SERVICEMENT HANDLING THE SUPPLY FUNCTIONS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. HE MADE QUITE CLEAR THAT P.W. BOTHA AND THE PRIME MINISTER, AMONG OTHERS, TOOK A FIRM STAND ON THESE ISSUES.

4. COMMENT: I PASS THE FOREGOING ON AS FOURIE'S PERSONAL STATEMENT OF THE STATE OF PLAY WITHIN THE SAG. I CANNOT SAY WITH CERTAINTY THAT THIS WILL BE THE SAG  
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PAGE 03     CAPE T 00556 210902Z

POSITION ONCE OUR PROPOSALS ARE ON THE TABLE. CHANCES ARE THEY WILL SAY VERY LITTLE AND WAIT TO SEE HOW SWAPO REACTS BEFORE TIPPING THEIR HAND. FOURIE SAID NOTHING FURTHER ABOUT PIK BOTHA COMMENTING OFFICIALLY ON OUR MARCH 5 PRESENTATION.  
BOWDLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic DecapTIONing:** Z  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 mar 1978  
**DecapTION Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**DecapTION Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 CAPE TOWN 543, 78 USUN NEW YORK 937  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAMIBIA: CONVERSATION WITH BRAND FOURIE  
**TAGS:** PORG, PDEV, SF, WA, (FOURIE, BRAND)  
**To:** STATE USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE  
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